

THE RICHMOND PLANET

EDITOR MITCHELL IN THE FAR WEST.

A Colored Teacher in Mixed Schools.

A FAREWELL TO OMAHA—A ROUGH CROWD—POLLING THE PASSENGERS—ARRIVAL AT CHICAGO—THE COLORED PEKIN THEATRE—ITS HUMOROUS ATTRACTIONS—THE PYTHIAN TEMPLE SITE—VALUING A TICKET—A LAUGHABLE DESCRIPTION OF A LONG JOURNEY.

There are some bar-rooms in Omaha that will not serve colored patrons so we were told, but most of the theatres will accommodate colored people. The hotels discriminate against colored people and so do the lunch rooms. Outside of the professions, there are few colored men engaged in business. Still, the colored people are progressing and those with whom we came in contact were refined and intelligent. They have mixed schools in this city.

TEACHES WHITE CHILDREN.

We met Miss Eulalia S. Overall, colored, who is a teacher in Mason School, Room 4. She has had quite an experience and is the only colored teacher in the mixed schools of Omaha. By her superior qualifications, she has secured a permanent certificate in the public schools. She had some trouble once with a white family, who objected to her, but that passed by and she now instructs white children with no embarrassment whatever and she has won the cordial support of the white patrons. She is tall, about 6 feet, and good looking, a typical western lady and her amiable qualities seem to have made her a general favorite.

AFTER FREE LAND.

We left Omaha Thursday morning for Chicago over the Northwestern R. R. bidding Mr. T. P. Mahanmitt farewell at the station. We entered the day coach and secured a seat by the window. There was a crowd of white men of the roughest kind and characters, who were returning from the opening of land in Tripp county, South Dakota where the government had been holding a drawing for nearly a million acres of arable land. Omaha was one of the gateways to this section of the country and every available space was crowded. Men cursed and swore. They chewed tobacco and spit on the floor.

A POLL OF PASSENGERS.

Soon after the train left the station, three white men passed through the cars polling the passengers as to whom they would support for president of the United States. A tall, six foot, powerfully built westerner looked on with satisfaction and whenever a passenger said, "Bryan," he would smile approvingly with the remark, "You certainly look good to me." The poll of the coach in which we rode stood, 27 for Bryan, 16 for Taft and 7 for Debs. There was a call for luncheon in the dining car and later we cast another lingering glance at the white folks across the aisle to our right who were playing cards and cursing in a manner that would have reflected discredit upon a mining camp in the Far West.

NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEM.

We came to the conclusion that there was no difference between the lower class of white folks and a similar class of Negroes. They were on the same level and the race of neither did not figure in the equation. For the first time on our journey we passed from a day coach instead of a Pullman to the dining car. We were ushered to a seat by the polite waiters and as we waited for the meal, we gave ourselves up to thoughts of the discomforts of the coach we had just left to the comforts of the one we longed to obtain. We could stand it no longer and upon being told that there was a Pullman Parlor car on the train we hurriedly left the table and sought the porter of the parlor car in question.

THE PULLMAN PARLOR CAR.

"I wish a seat in this car, if you please," was our remark to the colored porter. "Certainly," he said. He showed us to a vacant arm-chair. We told him to bring our luggage from the day coach and we returned to the dining car to finish our meal. A few moments later, after having suffered the discomforts of the trip for four hours, we were gazing upon the rapidly changing scenes in Iowa and thinking of days that to us would

never come again. We went to the writing desk and wrote several letters on the paper of "The Colorado Special." Darkness settled down on the outside and when we reached the Illinois state line, we never knew.

*FRIENDS TO MEET US.

Suffice it to say that the train pulled into the Northwestern station and we hurriedly left for the streets of Chicago, meeting at the gates the two stately but smiling military forms of Major R. R. Jackson, commanding and Major A. A. Watkins, Assistant Surgeon General of the Eighth Illinois Regiment of the Illinois National Guard. They had come to meet us and they assisted us with our luggage to the elevated railroad train from which place we were carried to the admirably located apartments of Mrs. C. J. Martin.

THE COMMANDER OF THE UNIFORM RANK.

R. R. Jackson is Major-General of the Uniform Rank of Knights of Pythias and is a soldier and disciplinarian of the "first water." We laughed and talked and when they left we carried not as to the order of our going, but a few minutes later were sleeping peacefully as a babe, oblivious of our surroundings as well as careless of the obstacles and difficulties that were yet to confront us as the result of this, our long journey.

AWOKE IN CHICAGO.

Morning dawned and when we arose it was to go to the Northwestern station on the north side. We entered the palatial dining room and we were conducted to a table by the polite colored headwaiter, whom we later found to be Mr. G. G. Wilson. Before our breakfast had been concluded, he approached us and during the conversation stated that the manager had made enquiries concerning us. The badge of the American Bankers' Association upon the lapel of the coat of a colored man had set afloat around our engraved plate visiting cards and the Mechanics' Savings Bank became, too, the subject of much comment.

THE PYTHIAN TEMPLE.

We returned to our headquarters at Mrs. C. J. Martin, 3254 Wabash Avenue. Later, we visited some of the points of interest in Chicago. We saw the site for the Pythian Temple, corner of 33d and State Streets. It is a three story structure. It is 100 by 105 feet. There are two elements in Chicago. One is in favor of disposing of the present site at a profit and purchasing Turner Hall, a large spacious building, well-suited for lodge meetings and with an auditorium and a bowling alley for other purposes. The other side is in favor of pulling down the buildings on the present site and of erecting a new structure thereon.

TWO PROPOSITIONS OFFERED.

One side contends that Turner Hall can be secured for about \$65,000 while a new structure will cost over \$100,000 and the present building will be a total loss. The other side states that Turner Hall backs up to the elevated railway tracks and that the constant noise will injure its value and impair its usefulness. Major-General R. R. Jackson seems to be leader of the Turner Hall proposition and Grand Chancellor A. A. Wesley, the champion of the new building idea. There are many fine points made by both sides in support of their contentions and we found ourselves agreeing with first one side and then the other, finally regretting that we had expressed any opinion whatever upon the subject.

THE OFFICE AND HOME OF THE MAJOR-GENERAL.

The Major-General's office on State Street is a most attractive place. An orderly remains in charge and from this place all of the business of this department is transacted. On the

walls are photographs of officers and groups of staff officers. Chalks are in evidence for meetings and there is a neat, trim, military appearance about everything, and it is deserving of commendation. We had arranged to dine with Major General R. R. Jackson and his family at their cozy residence at 6 o'clock and we were on hand to enjoy a most appetizing repast. We met his accomplished daughter and a few moments later were enroute to the residence of Attorney S. A. T. Watkins.

THE REFUGE OF A LAWYER.

We met his Madame and for the first time in our lives stood on the threshold of the cozy Watkins' mansion. Mrs. Watkins hand and her artistic taste were everywhere in evidence. A son was sick in bed, but was rapidly improving. An agreement was made to visit the theatre that night and we were to be met by both Major General Jackson and Attorney S. A. T. Watkins and a few moments later we were all on the way to the colored place of amusement, known as the Pekin Theatre.

THE PEKIN THEATRE.

This place is a remodelled structure, having embraced two stores. It is owned and operated by a colored gentleman and we were introduced to the proprietor. As we entered, we saw a box-office with a lady selling tickets. They ranged in prices as follows: 10, 15, 25 and 35 cents. The boxes, which were nothing more nor less than raised platforms on the main floor and in the galleries were occupied. To the left was the open door to a bar-room, which appeared to be liberally patronized between the acts, which intermission came frequently, but at regular intervals.

PLENTY REFRESHMENTS.

Whiskey seemed to be the most popular remedy, if we were to judge by the orders which came thick and fast, while beer came second to cool the parched throats of the pilgrims who were out for an evening's enjoyment. The performance consisted of moving pictures, a vaudeville and a tragedy. The players were white and colored. The latter were predominant and in absolute control of the vaudeville department. We secured seats on the main floor and the performance began. The first scene was that of an African king. A brawny, dancing colored man of brown complexion with a tuft of hair on either side.

AFRICAN COSTUMES.

About the only clothes that this chief wore was a breech-clout about the centre of his body to hide that part of his nakedness. His subjects were similarly attired, with the exception of the women who wore dress robes, which appeared to be about twelve inches long, measuring from the waist. The king was seated upon a platform upon the top of which was an arm-chair. He held a gun which from the looks of it, might have been used in the Middle Ages. At his feet, scampered a lester or clown, wearing a monkey's face which he styled Beppo. His naked subjects danced before him. One of the women wore a "Merry Widow" hat about five feet in diameter.

A MISSIONARY'S PREDICAMENT.

The entrance of a messenger, who told in an excited manner of the capture of a stranger stopped the proceeding and caused the issuance of an order. It was obeyed for short thereafter a tall black, colored gentleman wearing a stove pipe hat, with clerical collar and coat and with a Bible under his arm appeared upon the scene. He delivered an address to the king, who looked at him with down-right contempt. "Oh king," said he, "I come from U. S. A." This raised the ire of the king. He left his throne with the instructions, "Beppo, guard the throne!" He braded the monkey man the antiquated gun and he hopped upon the

(Continued on Eighth Page.)

DELANEY JONES KILLED.

An Accident at Elba—Locomotive Leaves Track.

The northbound passenger train on the R. F. and P. R. R. of the Atlantic Coast Line system was the cause of an accident at Elba Station Friday morning at 5:45 o'clock, Nov. 27th. Two locomotives were pulling the train. The leading one jumped the track and partly demolished the garage of the Foster Motor Car Co., wrecking 50 feet of the wall. Delaney Jones, a colored brakeman was riding on the front of the leading locomotive and he was terribly mangled, dying soon after being placed in the ambulance.

Yard Conductor Thomas J. Waiton (white) was slightly injured and Thomas West, another colored brakeman considerably bruised. The track was not injured and the cause of the accident is a mystery. The train was only detained an hour by the accident. It returned to Byrd Street Station and went North by way of the James River bridge.

Returned From Ohio.

Mr. D. J. Chavers, who has been visiting his sister in Springfield, O. for several months returned to the city last Wednesday much improved in health. He brought with him one of the blanket ballots used in Ohio during the last presidential election. It is a curiosity in this state.

An Irish Servant Girl Peculiar Case—Fannie Pope and Daughter Arrested.

Mary Murphy, an Irish servant girl who has been in this country only about a year died under peculiar circumstances in this city. It seems that she came to this country direct from Ireland and boarded with John Kennedy at the northeast corner of Fourth and Baker Streets, to be exact it is 100 E. Baker Street. Archie Vaughan, a drug clerk in the Northside Pharmacy at Fifth and Baker Streets was her companion and the result of her relationship with him was a visit to a lying-in-house run by Mrs. Agnes Hermance, 1210 E. Marshall Street where she remained driven by George Woodson, to the Retreat for the Sick, dying on the way there.

The investigation shows that A. M. Vaughan, the druggist gave her medicine and had the criminal operation performed on her for the purpose of producing an abortion. A warrant is out for Vaughan and on last Wednesday Mrs. Fannie Pope and her daughter Ardella of 308 N. Tenth Street were arrested upon the charge of murder. Some say that Vaughan performed the operation himself.

False Report Circulated.

To Whom It May Concern: Be it known that the rumored report of Mr. George L. Vaughn's having owned one-half capital stock of the New York Cafe is absolutely false. Mr. Vaughn was simply one of my employees, and because of my discovery of his incompetency, I discharged him November 21. Since he has been discharged, he is endeavoring to put in the mind of the public that he sold his interest in the business when he had none. I much regret that the public has been misled to that extent. Having been detrimentally misused by Mr. Vaughn, I take this method of informing my friends of the true state of affairs in regard to this matter.

R. C. JACKSON, Prop.

WANTED—A young man, barber with good habits and first-class workman. Guarantee \$10.00 a week and all over this amount, fifty per cent. Write to HARRY R. ELLIS, 110 William St., New Bedford, Mass.

Rev. Dr. Brooks Here.

Rev. W. H. Brooks, D. D., Pastor of the 19th Street Baptist Church preached a powerful sermon at the Ebenezer Baptist Church, 12 o'clock Thanksgiving Day. The edifice was packed to the doors. The discourse produced a profound impression and has been the subject of much favorable comment all of this week. He left last Thursday evening for his home in Washington.

—Miss Robena Jenkins of Manchester, Va., who is attending V. N. and I. I. this session was in the city (Manchester) this week visiting her parents. She was a visitor to our office while here.

ED. DAVIS A CORPSE.

Killed in a Scuffle.—Only One Witness.—"The Wages of Sin is Death."

Ed. Davis, colored saw his last day on earth just previous to Thanksgiving Day and was lying stark and stiff in Price's Undertaking Rooms Friday, November 27th, while charitable friends were taking up a collection to bury him. "He was never any account and he would not work. He was just a plain gambler, a general good time man," said a man who stood by as the face was exposed to view.

PECULIAR CONDITION.

"There never was a bazaar at this hall where there was a dance that Ed. wasn't there," was the other compliment paid to the departed. It was said that he lived with the woman who shot him as man and wife although not married. The woman Janie Walker said he had an altercation on the street Wednesday night and slapped her. The quarrel was taken up again at home, 710½ Catherine Street and she said that Davis beat her again and getting the revolver from the bureau drawer said he would kill her.

THE ONLY WITNESS.

In the scuffle that ensued the weapon went off and the bullet entered Ed. Davis' chest, killing him almost instantly. The woman was arrested and is now in jail. She was the only witness to the tragedy.

\$1500.00 Endowment Paid.

South Boston, Va., Nov. 26, '08. This is to certify that I have received from John Mitchell, Jr., Grand Chancellor of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, Knights of Pythias, N. A. S. A. E. A. A., and A. (\$1500.00) One Hundred and Fifty Dollars in payment of the death-claim of Brother Thomas R. Duncan, who was a member of Pride of the South Lodge, No. 66, of South Boston, Va. Signed—M. H. Coleman, Administrator.

J. W. Mitchell, H. C. White, D. D. G. C.

Rev. Dr. Jones Speaks.

Mr. Editor—We are getting on nicely with our work. We have a good set of people. Though times have been dull, my people have been blessed with work in the Carnegie Mills the greatest in all the world. At this writing I have Rev. W. D. Woods of Roanoke, as my guest. He will leave for home on the 30th. We think we have one of the best churches in the western part of the state. They want to build a house of worship in the near future.

We have very good health here. The Lord's blessings have been with us since coming to this state nearly four years ago. For thirty-five years I have not been without a charge 12 months and this makes us think that the Lord called us to the work. We can lay down and get up in peace, apprehending no danger. We can go when we want to and where we want to and any way we want to. My white brethren in the ministry are very, very kind. We all meet together and speak upon all questions for the betterment of mankind.

I am also the President of the colored Master's Union of Pittsburgh composed of more than fifty members, one of the best in the country. I shall let my friends hear from me from time to time through your paper.

Box 206, R. R. JONES, Homestead, Pa.

Free Invitation!

Your are cordially invited to visit our little cozy store, which has recently opened up. This is a new corner store in the city. You will find there a nice line of clothing, shoes and hats for boys and men, and also gents' furnishing goods. Polite attention and reasonable prices. You will save money by calling on us for your boy's and children's clothing as we have made a specialty of this line. Goods sold guaranteed for the price paid or money refunded.

(MISS) ESSIE G. MILLER, Manager.

Notice!

LOST—A certificate, No. 306 for three shares of stock in the American Beneficial Insurance Company. The finder will be rewarded if returned to 517 N. 6th Street. Signed—DAISY REID.

DR. JONES AND HIS WIFE INJURED.

The Work of the Deadly Street Car.

Thanksgiving day was dark for Dr. Miles B. Jones and his Madame, gauged as it is by the terrible accident that befell them. They had been talking to Dr. R. F. Tancil, and had driven away when he heard Dr. Tancil say, "Look out, doctor!" Dr. Jones, who was driving down 29th Street South, turned the horses to the right. The carriage wheels on the left were on the track and also one of the horses.

As they were pulled to the right, the car struck the carriage throwing Dr. Jones and his wife under the horses heels and smashing the carriage. Mrs. Jones was badly injured about the hips and she has been paralyzed in one side ever since. The surgeons now think that her spine is not injured. Two of them have been in consultation over her at her residence, 908 N. Third Street. She has shown slow improvement and there is hope of her complete recovery.

REMOVAL SALE!

\$5000 worth of goods must go regardless of cost. 250 men's suits, original price \$12.50 to \$15.00 and \$18.00; now at \$5.50, \$6.00, \$7.50. 250 overcoats, original price \$10 to \$15 and \$18; your choice now, \$4.50, \$6.00, \$7.00 and \$10.00. 200 boys' and children's suits, original price \$2.50 to \$3.50; your choice now \$1.50, \$2.00, \$3.00 to \$5.00. 250 pairs men's pants, original price 25 cents to \$1.50; your choice now 15 cents to \$1.00. 300 pairs men's pants, original price \$1.50 to \$6.00; now \$1.19 to \$3.69.

You will also find at the removal sale \$1000 worth of gents' furnishing goods to which we have applied the knife. All of our regular fleece underwear is offered to you at 1 cents a garment. You will find at this cut price sale \$1000 worth of shoes for men, women and boys when can be had at greatly reduced prices. This is no fake sale, nothing but a genuine deal as we must get out and give up the store by the first of January.

Come early and make your selections before the stock is picked over and thereby avoiding the rush. You will find a large canvas cloth displayed over our windows at 528 E. Broad Street, near Sixth and Broad Streets. All goods sold for cash. I. J. MILLER, Prop., Richmond, Virginia.

A Card of Thanks.

Col. W. Henry Stokes of 1106 W. Leigh Street returns thanks to Planet, No. 8 and Planet Auxiliary, No. 1 for the surprise laid on him Wednesday night, Nov. 18, 1908. He has been quite ill but he is slowly improving.

Died in a Theatre.

Capt. Arthur A. Spitzer (white), was found dead in one of the seats of the Dixie Theatre, Brook Avenue and Broad Streets at 4:15 Saturday afternoon.

Dropped Dead.

John H. Willis dropped dead at First and Broad Streets Saturday evening from heart disease. There was much excitement there while waiting for the arrival of the coroner.

Killed by Telegraph Pole.

John Wade Collins, a 13 year old white boy climbed a telegraph pole at 35th and Clay Streets last Monday night. The pole broke off, catching him under it in the fall and killed him instantly. The pole was rotten and it was all his own fault.

The Only Colored Member.

John Mitchell, Jr., attended last month the National Convention of American Bankers' Association at Denver, Col. Mr. Mitchell is the only colored member of the association. He is president of the Mechanics' Savings Bank, Richmond, Va. but is better known as the editor of "The PLANET," one of the Negro's best journals.—Los Angeles New Age.

Our Repairs.

The PLANET Office has been painted inside and out and the walls handsomely papered by Blackwell & Bro., painters; William Ellis, Jr. paper hanger.

REV. DR. GRAHAM'S GREAT EFFORT.

Fifth Street Baptist Church Has a Home Rally.

Dr. W. F. Graham returned to Fifth Street Baptist Church as Pastor the first of last April, and in seven months and a half the church has shown most gratifying progress under his leadership. More than fifty persons have joined the church. The congregations are growing, the choir, under the leadership of Prof. Alexander McCoy is rendering music that is charming the entire city. The Pastor's sermons are the talk of the hour. All departments of the church are working harmoniously and Dr. Graham declares that his deacon board, trustees, ushers, Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. officers are doing their very best to keep old Fifth Street in front rank.

REACHED FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS.

They had last Sunday the winding up of what they call a home rally—that is, a rally among themselves, without any outside help. The amount raised was \$508.72. Dr. Graham gives credit for this most excellent success to the systematic work carried on by the clubs. There is not a better set of workers to be found anywhere.

The clubs reported as follows: Macedonia Club, Mrs. Caille D. Brown, President, \$112.30; Deacon's Club, Prof. B. H. Peyton, President, \$119.95; Usher's Club, Deacon J. H. Moss, President, \$72.10; Willing Worker's Club, Mrs. Josie A. Graham, President, \$61.85; Rally Club, Mrs. Mary Page, President, \$58.31; Lily of the Valley Club, Mrs. Mary Ham, President, \$30.95; Fairmount Club, Mrs. Alice Johnson, President, \$39.11; Union Club, Rev. Thomas Smith, President, \$7.85; Volunteer Club, Miss Alice Robinson, President, \$7.05; General Collection, \$49.15.

FIFTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS IN ALL.

This makes about \$1500.00 raised on the church debt in seven months and a half. The membership is perfectly elated over their success. The church the first of January will begin a new registration of all the members and Mr. James H. Chiles, the efficient and up-to-date church clerk is arranging his books to that end.

In a Class by Himself.

John Mitchell, Jr., editor of the Richmond PLANET, banker and general man of the race, has just returned from the American Bankers' Association annual meet at Denver. It took nearly four columns of the PLANET to tell what he saw and heard. John Mitchell, Jr. is truly in a class by himself.—Dallas, Texas Express.

UNABLE TO SCORE.

Greek Meets Greek—A Drawn Battle.

SHAW UNIV., RALEIGH, N. C., Nov. 28.—In the great football games played here against Lincoln University Thanksgiving Day neither team was able to score. Eight hundred people witnessed the game coming from all over the state.

It has been twenty years since Lincoln has been unable to score, and this is the first time in fifteen years she has played away from home. They were tendered a grand reception and a hearty welcome by the 600 students and faculty of Shaw.

Notice.

We wish to announce to the many friends and patrons of the Y. M. B. A. Wood and Coal Company that Mr. John J. Spotswood formerly with the Richmond Steam Laundry has been selected as collector and solicitor. Any courtesies extended him will be appreciated by us.

Y. M. B. ASSOCIATION, THOMAS H. WYATT, Pres. B. H. PEYTON, Secretary. 21.

STOCK FOR SALE.

People's Pleasure Park Co., Inc.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the People's Pleasure Park Company, Inc. It was decided to offer five hundred (500) shares of the capital stock of the company for sale at the rate of ten dollars (\$10) per share, cash or on weekly or monthly installments. Bids now open at No. 206 W. Broad Street.

J. B. JOHNSON, President. WM. H. TYLER, Secretary.

Let the PLANET do your Job-work.